



08-01-03

RCE/1700

PTO/SB/03 (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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**REQUEST  
FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

Address to:  
Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<i>Application Number</i>	09/708,932
<i>Filing Date</i>	November 8, 2000
<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Salman Akram
<i>Art Unit</i>	1722
<i>Examiner Name</i>	J. Mackey
<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	3434.1US (97-0856.01/US)

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. 1.114**

- a.  Previously submitted
  - i.  Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
  - ii.  Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
  - iii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Enclosed
  - i.  Amendment/Reply
  - ii.  Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
  - iii.  Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
  - iv.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

2. **Miscellaneous**

- a.  Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(i) required)
- b.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a.  The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 20-1469
  - i.  RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e)
  - ii.  Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. 1.136 and 1.17)
  - iii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b.  Check in the amount of \$750.00 enclosed
- c.  Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

**WARNING:** Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print /Type)	James R. Duzan	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	28,393
Signature	<u>James R. Duzan</u>	Date	July 31, 2003

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

Express Mail Label Number: EV325771842US

Date of Deposit: July 31, 2003

Person Making Deposit: Blake Johnson

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Serial No. 09/708,932

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Salman Akram

Serial No.: 09/708,932

Filed: November 8, 2000

For: A METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
FORMING METAL CONTACTS ON A  
SUBSTRATE

Examiner: J. Mackey

Group Art Unit: 1722

Attorney Docket No.: 2269-3434.1US  
(97-0856.01/US)

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AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING RCE

MAIL STOP AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This amendment is in response to the Final Rejection in the Office Action of May 6, 2003 whose initial period of response is set to expire on August 6, 2003 and the Advisory Action of July 15, 2003.